



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8
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INITIAL/FINAL POLLUTION REPORT

DATE: November 5, 2002

SUBJECT: Five Drum Site
Browning, Glacier County, Montana

FROM: Steve Hawthorn, Supervisor/OSC
USEPA Region 8

TO: Kevin Mould, EPA Headquarters

POLREP No: #1 - Initial/Final

I. BACKGROUND

Site ID#: 08FM

Lead Agency: EPA, Region 8, EPR
999 18th Street, Suite 300
Denver, Colorado 80202

NPL: No

Response Authority: CERCLA

Date of Notification: August 29, 2002

Action Memorandum: September 11, 2002

Date Action Started: August 29, 2002

Completion Date: January 22, 2003

II. SITE INFORMATION

A. Incident Category

Classic Emergency, Fund-Lead

B. Site Description

1. Site location

The Site is located approximately 1 mile South and ½ mile West of Browning, Montana.



2. Site description

The Site is a coulee which drains into Willow Creek, and the drums were dumped on the Blackfeet Reservation without approval.

3. Description of threat

On August 29, 2002, the Blackfeet Environmental Office (BFEO) notified the National Response Center (NRC) that five (5) abandoned drums were left in a coulee on the Blackfeet Reservation. The on-duty On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) from EPA discussed the NRC report with the Blackfeet Environmental Officer and found that four of the drums were leaking into the coulee which drains into Willow Creek; therefore the on-duty OSC determined that the abandoned drums posed an “imminent and substantial endangerment to human health” and initiated an emergency removal action at the property.

III. ACTIONS TAKEN

A. Removal Actions

On August 30, 2002, EPA’s Superfund Technical Assistance Response Team (START2) & Emergency and Rapid Response Services (ERRS) contractor met OSC Steve Hawthorn and representatives from BFEO at the Site to address the abandoned drums. ERRS overpacked the five drums in 85-gallon overpacks for temporary staging. START2 sampled the overpacked drums and initiated Transportation and Disposal (T&D) coordination. The overpacked drums remained at the temporary staging area until T&D coordination was completed.

B. Disposal

Five 85-gallon overpacked drums were sent to Chemical Waste Management of the Northwest, Arlington, Oregon, on January 22, 2003

IV. FUTURE ACTIONS

The work at this site was performed in compliance with the NCP and this Removal Action is considered complete as of January 22, 2003.

V. ESTIMATED COSTS

Total costs for the Fund-Lead Removal have not been received at this time but are estimated to be less than the ceiling of \$68,000.